

BETWEEN SYMMETRIC Predicate

A **BETWEEN** qualifier typically works in the following manner:

- A between B and C is equivalent to:

IF (A >= B) AND (A <=C)

This is still the case in Ingres 2006, but now there is also the optional "**symmetric**" keyword.

- A between symmetric B and C is equivalent to:

IF ((A >= B) AND (A <=C)) OR ((A >= C) AND (A <=B))

The following example demonstrates this new qualifier in action:

```
* create table demo (lab_test integer);
```

```
* insert into demo values (2);
```

```
-- Below is valid statement from a logical perspective,
```

```
-- but not from the perspective of SQL.
```

```
* SELECT lab_test FROM demo
```

```
  WHERE lab_test BETWEEN 3 and 1;
```

lab_test

(0 rows)

```
-- Notice how the symmetric keyword helps protect the programmer.
```

```
* SELECT lab_test FROM demo
```

```
  WHERE lab_test BETWEEN SYMMETRIC 3 and 1;
```

lab_test
2

(1 row)

[Back to SQL Tips Page](#)